# Permitting & Assistance Branch Staff Report Solid Waste Facilities Permit Revision for California Waste Services L.L.C. SWIS No. 19-AR-1225 December 5, 2011

#### **Background Information, Analysis, and Findings:**

This report was developed in response to the City of Los Angeles Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) request for the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (Department) concurrence on the issuance of a proposed Solid Waste Facilities Permit (SWFP) revision for California Waste Services L.L.C. (a Large Volume Construction and Demolition/Inert Debris Processing Facility), SWIS No. 19-AR-1225, located in Los Angeles County, owned by Harbor Redondo, L.L.C., and operated by California Waste Services L.L.C. A copy of the proposed permit is attached. This report contains the Permitting & Assistance Branch staff's analysis, findings, and recommendations.

The proposed permit was received on October 24, 2011. New versions were received on November 2, 2011, December 2, 2011 and December 7, 2011. Action must be taken on this proposed permit no later than February 2, 2012. If no action is taken by February 2, 2012, the Department will be deemed to have concurred with the issuance of the proposed revised permit.

#### **Proposed Changes**

The following changes to the permit are being proposed:

	Current Permit (2007 SWFP)	Proposed Permit	
Permitted Area (Acres)	2.5 Acres	5.9 Acres	
Local Enforcement Agency Name and Address	City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department 200 N. Spring Street Suite 1905 Mail Stop 248 Los Angeles, CA 90012	City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety 3550 Wilshire Boulevard, 18 <sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, CA 90010	
Permitted Hours of Operation	Material 6 am to 10 pm, Processing/ Monday - Sunday Transfer:	Material 6 am to 10 pm, Processing/ Monday – Saturday	
Findings	<ul> <li>a. The facility is identified in the City of Los Angeles Non-Disposal Facility Element, amended November 2004. [Public Resources Code (PRC), Section 50001(a)(2)].</li> <li>b. This Permit is consistent with standards adopted by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). [PRC, Section 44010].</li> <li>c. The design and operation of the facility is in compliance with the State Minimum Standards for Solid Waste Handling and Disposal as determined by the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA). [PRC, Section 44009].</li> <li>d. The local fire protection agency, the Los Angeles City Fire Department, has determined that the facility is in</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>a. The facility is identified in the City of Los Angeles Non-Disposal Facility Element, amended November 2004. [Public Resources Code (PRC), Section 50001(a)(2)].</li> <li>b. This Permit is consistent with standards adopted by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). [PRC, Section 44010].</li> <li>c. The design and operation of the facility is in compliance with the State Minimum Standards for Solid Waste Handling and Disposal as determined by the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA). [PRC, Section 44009].</li> <li>d. The local fire protection agency, the Los Angeles City Fire Department,</li> </ul>	

- conformance with applicable standards as required in *PRC*, *Section* 44151.
- In 2000 California Waste Services began operations as a large volume construction and demolition / inert debris processing facility at 621 West 152<sup>nd</sup> Street in Gardena, California. The facility was designed with a capacity of 1,000 tons per day of incoming construction and demolition / inert debris. The facility is located in an M2-1VL-O zone in which storing and salvaging of building materials from construction and demolition sites is permitted. This determination was confirmed by Mr. Ken Gill of the City of Los Angeles, Department of Building and Safety in a letter to Mr. Paul Willman, dated May 25, 2006.
- In August 2003, the State's new Construction and Demolition and Inert Debris Transfer/Processing Regulations went into effect that required California Waste Services to obtain a permit to continue operations. Pursuant to 14 CCR 17385, the facility was classified as a Pre-Existing facility. On December 30, 2004, after a public information meeting was conducted, the LEA issued a Temporary Registration Permit to California Waste Services for the operation of a 1,000 ton per day construction and demolition/inert debris processing facility. Since the issuance of the temporary permit, the facility has been operating within the permit limit with no expansion of use or negligible changes in operations.
- g. The Los Angeles City Planning
   Department prepared and filed a
   Notice of Exemption General
   Exemption for the continued operation
   of the existing California Waste
   Services.
- h. This permit covers the CDI Debris
  Processing Facility and recognizes
  that the solid waste collection vehicle
  yard and container storage operation
  in the adjacent property is covered
  under the LEA-issued Solid Waste
  Collection Vehicle Yard permit
  authorized under the City of Los
  Angeles Municipal Code Section
  66.16.2. Inspections will be
  documented in separate reports by the

- has determined that the facility is in conformance with applicable standards as required in *PRC*, *Section* 44151.
- e. In 2000 California Waste Services began operations as a large volume construction and demolition / inert debris processing facility at 621 West 152<sup>nd</sup> Street in Gardena, California. The facility was designed with a capacity of 1,000 tons per day of incoming construction and demolition / inert debris. The facility is located in an M2-1VL-O zone in which storing and salvaging of building materials from construction and demolition sites is permitted. This determination was confirmed by Mr. Ken Gill of the City of Los Angeles, Department of Building and Safety in a letter to Mr. Paul Willman, dated May 25, 2006.
- f. In August 2003, the State's new Construction and Demolition and Inert Debris Transfer/Processing Regulations went into effect that required California Waste Services to obtain a permit to continue operations. Pursuant to 14 CCR 17385, the facility was classified as a Pre-Existing facility. On December 30, 2004, after a public information meeting was conducted, the LEA issued a Temporary Registration Permit to California Waste Services for the operation of a 1,000 ton per day construction and demolition/inert debris processing facility. Since the issuance of the temporary permit, the facility has been operating within the permit limit with no expansion of use or negligible changes in operations.
- In September 2008, California Waste Services applied for a RFI Amendment to allow for the construction of a mechanized sorting line. The proposed mechanization project was analyzed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) (SCH No. 2008091130) was prepared by the LEA acting as lead agency. The MND was submitted to the State Clearinghouse and circulated for a 30day public comment period. The LEA considered the public comments and made the determination that the

	Current Permit (2007 SWFP)	Proposed Permit	
	(=====	to adequately control noise levels, gas/odor nuisances, traffic congestion, litter nuisances, and vectors such that there will be no significant impact on the local residences.	
The following documents also describe and/or restrict the design and operation of this facility:	CDI Processing Facility Report  December 2006 Revised February 2007	CDI Debris Processing Facility Report  December 2006 Revised February 2007 Amendment No. 1 September 2008 Amendment No. 2 May 2011	
	Land Use and/or Conditional Use Permit Building & Safety Determination Letter	Land Use and/or Conditional Use Permit Building and Safety Determination Letter  May 25, 2006	
	Notice of Exemption – General Exemption (2004- April 22, 2004 2516-CE)	Notice of Exemption – General Exemption April 22, 2004 (2004-2516-CE)	
	Identification in Non- Disposal Facility Element November 2004	Identification in Non- Disposal Facility November 2004 Element	
	Local & County Ordinances  Municipal Code	Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) November 2008 (SCH No. 2008091130)	
		Mitigated Negative Declaration Addendum September 2011	
LEA Conditions	<ul> <li>a. This facility shall comply with all State Minimum Standards for Solid Waste Handling and Disposal as specified in Title 14 and Title 27, California Code of Regulations.</li> <li>b. This facility shall comply with all federal, state and local requirements and enactments including all mitigation measures given in any certified environmental document filed pursuant to the Public Resources Code, Section 21081.6.</li> <li>c. Information concerning the design and operation of this facility shall be furnished, in a timely manner, on request to the LEA.</li> <li>d. The operator shall comply with all of the requirements of all applicable laws pertaining to employee health and safety.</li> <li>e. This permit is subject to review by the LEA and may be suspended, revoked, modified, or revised at any time for sufficient cause.</li> <li>f. The LEA reserves the right to suspend or modify this permit when deemed necessary due to an emergency, a potential health hazard or the creation of a public nuisance or for nonpayment of LEA permit fees.</li> </ul>	a. This facility shall comply with all State Minimum Standards for Solid Waste Handling and Disposal as specified in Title 14 and Title 27, California Code of Regulations.  b. Information concerning the design and operation of this facility shall be furnished, in a timely manner, on request to the LEA.  c. This permit is subject to review by the LEA and may be suspended, revoked, modified, or revised at any time for sufficient cause.  d. The LEA reserves the right to suspend or modify this permit when deemed necessary due to an emergency, a potential health hazard or the creation of a public nuisance.  e. The operator shall notify the LEA, in writing, of any proposed significant changes in the routine facility operation or changes in facility design during the planning stages. In no case shall the operator undertake any changes unless the operator first submits to the LEA a notice of said changes are undertaken, and those changes are approved by the LEA. Any significant change, as determined	

- g. The operator shall notify the LEA, in writing, of any proposed significant changes in the routine facility operation or changes in facility design during the planning stages. In no case shall the operator undertake any changes unless the operator first submits to the LEA a notice of said changes at least 180 days before said changes are undertaken, and those changes are approved by the LEA. Any significant change, as determined by the LEA, would require a revision of this permit.
- h. A summary of all potential pilot projects must be submitted to the LEA in writing prior to the implementation of that pilot project. The LEA must approve all pilot projects before they can be implemented.
- i. The operator must notify the LEA 45 days in advance of any proposed change in ownership or operator.
- j. The operator shall maintain a copy of this permit and Facility Report at the facility so as to be available at all times to facility personnel and to Enforcement Agencies' personnel.
- k. The facility operator shall ensure that only construction and demolition/inert debris as defined in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 3.0, Article 5.9 are accepted for handling, processing and/or storage.
- 1. The site must be supervised by trained individuals with relevant experience at all times during operating hours.

  Supervisors and managers must have the authority to commit company resources to resolve emergency and non-emergency health, safety and environmental issues, if such action is necessary to protect the health and safety or site employees and the nearby community.
- m. The operator shall ensure that all incoming construction and demolition/inert debris will be processed within 15 days of acceptance and that all residual waste be removed from the site within 48 hours.
- n. All debris, waste or storage piles shall not exceed the height of the perimeter solid wall. The debris piles and other piles of materials on site must be stored in a stable manner and

- by the LEA, would require a revision of this permit.
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- The facility operator shall ensure that only construction and demolition/inert debris as defined in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 3.0, Article 5.9 are accepted for handling, processing and/or storage.
- j. The site must be supervised by trained individuals with relevant experience at all times during operating hours. Supervisors and managers must have the authority to commit company resources to resolve emergency and non-emergency health, safety and environmental issues, if such action is necessary to protect the health and safety of all individuals on site and the nearby community.
- k. The operator shall ensure that all incoming construction and demolition/inert debris will be processed within 15 days of acceptance and that all residual waste be removed from the site within 48 hours.
- All debris, waste or storage piles shall not exceed the height of the perimeter solid wall. The debris piles and other piles of materials on site must be stored in a stable manner and configured so as to protect public health and safety.
- m. Signs shall be provided to ensure orderly and safe operation of the facility. The operator shall install and maintain signs at the entrance pursuant to the signage requirements found in 14 CCR 17409.4.
- n. Dust and noise generation must be minimized to the maximum practical extent feasible through work practices, maintenance and

- configured so as to protect public and employee health and safety.
- o. Signs shall be provided to ensure orderly and safe operation of the facility. The operator shall install and maintain signs at the entrance pursuant to the signage requirements found in 14 CCR 17409.4.
- p. Dust and noise generation must be minimized to the maximum practical extent feasible through work practices, maintenance, and engineering controls, if needed. The operator shall ensure the existing dust control systems are operational and adequate at all times. If the existing dust and odor control measures are determined to be inadequate, the LEA may require that additional control measures be implemented.
- q. Limited and reasonable monitoring for dust, noise or other environmental impacts or conditions will be conducted by qualified firms or individuals, if determined to be necessary by the LEA and results will be provided to the LEA by the facility operator at the operator's expense.
- r. The operator shall comply with the established Litter Control Program as outlined in the Facility Report. This program includes tarping requirements, containments of litter, site and facility clean-up. The site supervisor is required to conduct routine monitoring of the facility and adjacent streets and properties to ensure that litter is being controlled. It is the responsibility of the operator to keep all surrounding streets used for ingress and egress and adjacent properties free of litter resulting from the facility operation.
- s. The operator shall provide daily sweeping of the entire facility and the street and sidewalk adjacent to the site's entrance to minimize dust and litter. If water is used for clean up, runoff from such wash downs shall not leave the site.
- t. The operator shall provide and maintain rumble strips at the facility exit to control the track out of dirt and debris onto the adjacent street. If it is determined that these control measures are inadequate, the LEA may require additional mitigation measures to control dust to be

- engineering controls, if needed. The operator shall ensure the approved dust control systems are operational and adequate at all times. If the existing dust and odor control measures are determined to be inadequate, the LEA may require that additional control measures be implemented.
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- r. The operator shall provide and maintain rumble strips at the facility exit to control the track out of dirt and debris onto the adjacent street. If it is determined that these control measures are inadequate, the LEA may require additional mitigation measures to control dust to be implements.
- s. The operator will maintain a professional vector control service at all times. It is the responsibility of the operator to eliminate rodent harborages and food sources.
- t. All recyclables shall be stored within designated areas in a neat and orderly manner so as to not to generate litter, harbor vectors or pose a nuisance.
- u. The operator shall maintain, at the

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- implements.
- u. The operator will maintain a professional vector control service at all times. It is the responsibility of the operator to eliminate rodent harborages and food sources.
- The operator shall make periodic evaluations of material recycling operations and incoming residual wastes to promote increasing the materials diversion rate and report the results of such evaluations to the LEA.
- w. All recyclables shall be stored within designated areas in a neat and orderly manner so as to not to generate litter, harbor vectors or pose a nuisance.
- x. The operator shall maintain, at the facility, accurate <u>daily</u> records of the weight and/or volume of construction and demolition/inert debris received. These records shall be made available to the LEA's personnel and to the CIWMB's personnel for inspection and shall be maintained on site for a period of at least one year.
- y. The permitted daily capacity of this facility has been determined to be 1,000 tons per day. On no day shall more than 1,000 tons of construction and demolition/inert debris, be received at this facility, and unless temporary permission is first obtained from the LEA.
- z. The entire area within the permitted boundaries of the site must have adequate drainage control and be free of ponded water within 48 hours of rainfall.
- aa. Operational controls shall be established to preclude the receipt and disposal of hazardous waste and volatile organic chemicals or other types of prohibited wastes. The operator shall comply with the approved Hazardous Waste Load Checking Program as described in the Facility Report. Any changes in this program must be approved by the LEA prior to implementation. The following Solid Waste Facility Permit conditions supplement those conditions:
  - (1) The minimum number of random waste vehicle loads to be inspected daily at this facility is two (2). The LEA reserves the right to increase the required

- facility, accurate <u>daily</u> records of the weight and/or volume of construction and demolition/inert debris received. These records shall be made available to the LEA's personnel and to the CalRecycle's personnel for inspection and shall be maintained on site for a period of at least one year.
- v. The permitted daily capacity of this facility has been determined to be 1,000 tons per day. On no day shall more than 1,000 tons of construction and demolition/inert debris, be received at this facility, and unless temporary permission is first obtained from the LEA.
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  - (1) The minimum number of random waste vehicle loads to be inspected daily at this facility is two (2). The LEA reserves the right to increase the required number of incoming waste load inspections.
  - (2) The personnel training and load check procedures necessary for the program must be submitted and approved by the LEA. Visual inspections are to be performed by trained spotters and equipment operators. The LEA must review and approve this program and operation. Additional measures may be required upon the request of the LEA.
  - (3) In the event that hazardous or suspected hazardous wastes are brought into the facility, the operator is required to follow

Current Permit
(2007 SWFP)

- number of incoming waste load inspections.
- (2) The personnel training and load check procedures necessary for the program must be submitted and approved by the LEA. Visual inspections are to be performed by trained spotters and equipment operators. The LEA must review and approve this program and operation. Additional measures may be required upon the request of the LEA.
- (3) In the event that hazardous or suspected hazardous wastes are brought into the facility, the operator is required to follow procedures for obtaining information, notification, handling and disposal as outlined in Facility Report.
- (4) Suspected hazardous wastes must be properly labeled and stored in the hazardous waste containment area. The hazardous waste storage area shall provide for adequate storage and secondary containment for different chemical classifications to avoid storage of incompatible materials.
- (5) It is the responsibility of the facility operator to dispose of any prohibited materials (hazardous or suspected hazardous materials, liquid, sludges, radioactive or medical wastes) in accordance with all local, state and federal regulations.
- (6) Incidents of unlawful disposal of prohibited materials shall be reported to the LEA monthly as described in the monitoring section of this permit. In addition, the following agencies shall be notified immediately, after each occurrence, if applicable, of any incidents of illegal hazardous materials disposal:
  - I. Los Angeles County Fire Prevention Bureau, Hazardous Materials Division
  - II. Environmental Crimes Division, L.A. County District Attorney
- III. California Highway Patrol bb. The operator shall maintain a daily log of special/unusual occurrences. If

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- procedures for obtaining information, notification, handling and disposal as outlined in Facility Report.
- (4) Suspected hazardous wastes must be properly labeled and stored in the hazardous waste containment area. The hazardous waste storage area shall provide for adequate storage and secondary containment for different chemical classifications to avoid storage of incompatible materials.
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- (6) Incidents of unlawful disposal of prohibited materials shall be reported to the LEA monthly as described in the monitoring section of this permit. In addition, the following agencies shall be notified immediately, after each occurrence, if applicable, of any incidents of illegal hazardous materials disposal:
  - I. Los Angeles County Fire Prevention Bureau, Hazardous Materials Division
  - II. Environmental Crimes Division, L.A. County District Attorney
- III. California Highway Patrol y. The operator shall maintain a daily log of special/unusual occurrences. If there are no special occurrences for a given day, that day's entry shall read "none". This log shall include, but are not necessarily limited to:

Any loads refused entry into the facility and the basis for the refusal, i.e., potentially live ammunition, fires, explosions, earthquakes, discharge of hazardous liquids or gases to the ground or the atmosphere, or significant injuries, accidents, or property damage. Each of these log entries shall be accompanied by a summary of any actions taken by the operator to mitigate the occurrence.

there are no special occurrences for a given day, that day's entry shall read "none". This log shall include, but are not necessarily limited to:

Any loads refused entry into the facility and the basis for the refusal, i.e., potentially live ammunition, fires, explosions, earthquakes, discharge of hazardous liquids or gases to the ground or the atmosphere, or significant injuries, accidents, or property damage. Each of these log entries shall be accompanied by a summary of any actions taken by the operator to mitigate the occurrence. The operator shall maintain this log at the facility so as to be available at all times to site personnel and to the Enforcement Agencies' personnel. Any of these specified entries made in this log must be promptly reported to the LEA. Call the duty officer, City of Los Angeles, Environmental Affairs Department, at (213) 978-0892, Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. For after hours incidents, the operator shall call the pager number provided to them by the LEA. Only authorized personnel can make entries into this log. If a situation arises that cannot be handled by facility personnel then call 911 or another outside emergency agency appropriate for the situation as listed in the Facility Report. The LEA shall be notified immediately after the appropriate outside emergency agency has been notified.

- cc. In the event of a declared local emergency involving demolition and recovery activities, this facility will cooperate to the maximum extent feasible with the City of Los Angeles Emergency Operations Organization in coordination with the Environmental Affairs Department.
- dd. The operator shall comply with the CIWMB Disposal Reporting System regulations and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Disposal Reporting requirements, including tracking diversion by jurisdiction or origin, and providing requesting jurisdictions with requested data.

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The operator shall maintain this log at the facility so as to be available at all times to site personnel and to the Enforcement Agencies' personnel. Any of these specified entries made in this log must be promptly reported to the LEA. Call the duty officer, City of Los Angeles, Local Enforcement Agency at (213) 252-3939, Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. For after hours incidents, the operator shall call the pager number provided to them by the LEA. Only authorized personnel can make entries into this log. If a situation arises that cannot be handled by facility personnel then call 911 or another outside emergency agency appropriate for the situation as listed in the Facility Report. The LEA shall be notified immediately after the appropriate outside emergency agency has been notified.

- z. In the event of a declared local emergency involving demolition and recovery activities, this facility will cooperate to the maximum extent feasible with the City of Los Angeles Emergency Operations Organization in coordination with the LEA.
- aa. The operator shall comply with the CalRecycle Disposal Reporting System regulations and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Disposal Reporting requirements, including tracking diversion by jurisdiction or origin, and providing requesting jurisdictions with requested data.

## **Findings:**

All of the submittals and findings required by Title 27, Section 21685 have been provided and made. Staff has determined that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements have been met to support concurrence. The findings are summarized in the table below. The documents on which staff's findings are based have been provided to the Branch Chief with this Staff Report and are permanently maintained in the facility files maintained by the Permitting and Assistance Branch.

CCR Title 27 Sections	Findings	
21685(b)(1) LEA Certified Complete and Correct Report of Facility Information	The LEA provided the required certification in their permit submittal letter dated October 15, 2011.	Acceptable Unacceptable
21685(b)(2) LEA Five Year Permit Review	The existing permit was issued in July 2007; therefore a Five Year Permit Review is not due or required at this time. Note: Any future permit modification or revision of this permit will require a Five Year Permit Review.	Acceptable Unacceptable
21685(b)(3) Solid Waste Facilities Permit	The LEA submitted a proposed solid waste facilities permit on December 7, 2011.	Acceptable Unacceptable
21685 (b)(4)(A) Consistency with Public Resources Code 50001	The LEA, in their permit submittal package received on October 24, 2011, provided a finding that the facility is consistent with PRC 50001 and Waste Evaluation & Enforcement Branch (WEEB) in the Jurisdiction Product & Compliance Unit found the facility is identified in the Siting Facility Element and with the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, as described in the memorandum dated December 1, 2011.	Acceptable Unacceptable
21685(b)(8) Operations Consistent with State Minimum Standards	WEEB staff in the Inspections and Enforcement Agency Compliance Unit found that the facility was in compliance with all operating and design requirements during an inspection conducted on December 6, 2011. See compliance history below for details.	Acceptable Unacceptable
21685(b)(9) LEA CEQA Finding	The LEA provided a finding in their permit submittal package received on October 24, 2011, that the proposed permit is consistent with and supported by the existing CEQA documentation. See details below.	Acceptable Unacceptable
21650(g)(5) Public Notice and or Meeting, Comments	A Public Informational Meeting was held by the LEA on September 14, 2011. Oral and written comments were received by the LEA and Department staff. See details below.	Acceptable Unacceptable
CEQA Determination to Support Responsible Agency's Findings	The Department is a responsible agency under CEQA with respect to this project, a proposed revised SWFP. Permits staff has determined that the CEQA record can be used to support the Branch Chief's' action on the	Acceptable Unacceptable

CCR Title 27 Sections	Findings	
	proposed revised permit. See details below.	

#### **Compliance History:**

The facility was inspected by WEEB staff in the Inspections and Enforcement Agency Compliance Unit on December 6, 2011. No violations were noted.

No violations were cited by the LEA during the last five years.

#### **Environmental Analysis:**

Under CEQA, the Department must consider, and avoid or substantially lessen where possible, any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed revised SWFP before the Department concurs in it. In this case, the Department is a Responsible Agency under CEQA and must utilize the environmental document prepared by the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department, acting as Lead Agency, absent changes in the project or the circumstances under which it will be carried out that justify the preparation of additional environmental documents and absent significant new information about the project, its impacts and the mitigation measures imposed on it.

California Waste Services L.L.C. currently operates under a Full SWFP, issued by the LEA on July 24, 2007. The proposed Revised SWFP under consideration is to allow for the expansion of the permitted area from 2.5 acres to 5.9 acres and the relocation of the installation of the mechanized processing equipment in the new area. The proposed Revised SWFP also eliminates processing of material on Sundays in response to public comments received by the LEA (see details below in the Public Comments Section).

A Mitigated Negative Declaration, State Clearinghouse No. 2008091130 was circulated for a thirty day comment period from September 24, 2008 to October 23, 2008. The Mitigated Negative Declaration described the installation of a mechanized sorting system. The Mitigated Negative Declaration was adopted by the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department and the Notice of Determination was filed with the City Clerk on November 20, 2008 and with the County Clerk on November 21, 2008. The document identified Noise, Land Use and Air Quality as having the potential to significantly affect the environment, but those potential impacts were all avoided or reduced to a level of insignificance through the imposition of mitigation measures. All other environmental factors reviewed were determined to either have no impact or a less than significant impact.

The City of Los Angeles, (previously the Environment Affairs Department) Department of Building and Safety (LEA) analyzed the Revised SWFP application and determined that there was no significant change in the site's operation and adopted an Addendum to the Mitigated Negative Declaration. The Addendum, dated September 2011, made minor modifications to the configuration of the C&D sorting equipment and selected a different manufacturer than was identified in the Mitigated Negative Declaration. The Addendum also relocated the facility operations to the east side of the property and incorporated the use of existing buildings at the east end of the project site in order to reduce the overall potential environmental impacts of the facility operations. The LEA has provided a finding that the proposed Revised SWFP is consistent and supported by the cited environmental documents.

Staff recommends that the Department, acting as a Responsible Agency under CEQA, utilize the environmental document as prepared by the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department in that there are no grounds under CEQA for the Department to prepare a subsequent or supplemental environmental document or assume the role of Lead Agency for its consideration of the proposed SWFP. Department staff has reviewed and considered the CEQA Findings adopted by the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department. Department staff recommends the Mitigated Negative Declaration together with the CEQA finding, is adequate for the Branch Chief's environmental evaluation of the proposed project for those project activities which are within the Department's expertise and/or powers, or which are required to be carried out or approved by the Department.

The administrative record for the decision to be made by the Department includes the administrative record before the LEA, the proposed Revised SWFP and all of its components and supporting documentation, this staff report, the Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the Lead Agency, and other documents and materials utilized by the Department in reaching its decision on concurrence in, or objection to, the proposed Revised SWFP. The custodian of the Department's administrative record is Dona Sturgess, Legal Office, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, P.O. Box 4025, Sacramento, CA 95812-4025.

### **Local Issues:**

The project document availability, hearings, and associated meetings were extensively noticed consistent with the SWFP requirements. A review from the public process indicates that environmental justice issues were not identified by the surrounding community (Census Tract 2912.10). 2000 census information indicates that the surrounding population is approximately 35.9% White, 14.7% Black or African American, 0.6% American Indian or Native Alaskan, 16.9% Asian, 0.4% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, 24.9% some other race, and 6.6% two or more races. 56.4% of the total population describe themselves as Hispanic or Latino. 13.8% of the families are below the poverty level. Staff finds the project and permit process to be consistent with Government Code Section 65040.12, as there has been fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the proposed action being recommended above.

#### **Public Comments:**

On September 14, 2011, the LEA held a public informational meeting at the Rosecrans Recreation Center in Gardena, California. Approximately 25 community members, including one from the local neighborhood council, attended. Seven members of the public spoke addressing concern for a potential buy-back center, discontent with the current noise and dust levels and their potential effects on the health of the neighborhood residents, and concern about the facility operating outside of its permitted hours of operation.

In addition to the concerns expressed at the September 14, 2011 public hearing the LEA and CalRecycle have received comment letters regarding California Waste Services' application for SWFP revision. The letters, identified concerns regarding air pollution from excess dirt, infestation of rats, bugs and flies in the neighborhood, noise and vibrations at early hours, and loud music coming from the facility. The letters also requested:

- A reduction of operating hours to Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and eliminating operating hours on Sunday.
- Total enclosure of the construction and demolition operations buildings.

- Documentation of the method of oversight of the waste haulers and their method of releasing containers from the trucks at the facility so that the loud noises associated with the dropping of containers is eliminated.
- Copies of the reports of the vector control service used by California Waste Services mailed to the Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council on a regular basis.
- A dedicated 24-hour telephone line at the LEA for resident complaints to be recorded and documented.

The LEA discussed the requests with California Waste Services which resulted in the following agreements that were communicated to the neighborhood council:

- California Waste Services is willing to eliminate Sunday processing of construction and demolition/inert debris material as requested. However, site operations will not allow for the reduction of hours Monday through Saturday from the existing permitted hours.
- California Waste Services does not have the financial resources to fully enclose the entire
  construction and demolition/inert debris processing operation. However, they will try and
  design the facility with as much of the operation enclosed as possible. The existing permit
  allows for the complete operation to be conducted outdoors.
- California Waste Services will conduct training for the station employees and the California Waste Services truck drivers on the procedures to use when removing containers from trucks and moving them around the yard so as to reduce noise associated with these activities. A copy of the training records will be maintained at the facility and available for review by the LEA. California Waste Services has implemented a policy for their hauling company not to use the exit with the rumble strips during nighttime hours. Any driver caught by violating this policy will be fined \$100.00.
- California Waste Services has hired a pest control company to service the site twice a
  month. They do not provide California Waste Services with an inspection report with their
  findings. However, California Waste Services will maintain copies of the invoices onsite for
  review by LEA personnel during normal business hours.
- The LEA will continue to use its main phone line for complaints. The messages can be left 24 hours a day and the LEA has a policy of responding to all complaints within 24 hours. California Waste Services will provide a number to the Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council in which they can contact California Waste Services with any problems.

The LEA and Department also received an e-mail submitted by a resident of the neighborhood, dated October 27, 2011. The e-mail acknowledged California Waste Services for their efforts and indicated support for the SWFP revision.

#### **Department Staff Actions:**

Staff responded to questions from the LEA regarding the permit process. The Department provided an opportunity for public comment during the Monthly Public Meeting on November 15, 2011. No comments were received at this meeting.